

## **Provision of Braille books and other aids for visually impaired children under SSA**

Braille books are provided free of cost to the blind children of the entire state through Braille Bhawan, Ludhiana. Braille Bhawan has its own printing press, and it functions under the Department of Social Security Women & Child Development. It prints and provides the books to the children of classes 1<sup>st</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup>. Besides this, children with low vision are provided magnifiers and microscopic lenses to aid them in reading, as large print books were very cumbersome for the children to handle.

The department is in tie-up with Saksham, an NGO and ALIMCO (Artificial Limbs Manufacturing Corporation of India, a GoI undertaking) for providing Daisy Player and/or Smartphone equipped with screen reading software in order to aid the visually impaired children to access the Digital Library of Saksham. This Library provides thousands of books, including story books in digital form, which can be read out by the screen reader, thereby opening the entire world of reading and stories for these children, enabling them to enjoy the unseen world through the written word.



A Blind student being handed over Braille Books



*Blind student being helped in accessing the syllabus through the Braille Books in Special Resource Center Shri Muksar Sahib.*